

SPORTS

THE WINNERS FROM KAZAKHSTAN

Alma-Ata Dynamo (photo) have won the first ever national field hockey cup, edging vice-champion Sverdlovsk Army Sports Club 2-1 in the final game.



Photo by Pyotr Sergeyev

FASTER AND FASTER

Altogether four new world records were set in the national underwater speed swimming championships under way at the Olimpiyskiy sports complex in Moscow.

In the 800 m Svetlana Uspenskaya, from Kiev, clocked 7 min 20.78 sec using flippers, a 0.02 sec improvement on the world mark, while three male contenders improved the world record of 1:29.40. In their similar event, Vladimir Alexei Zhukov, from Novosibirsk, clocked 1:28.42.

In the women's 50 m flippers diving Inna Starodub clocked 18.60, and Artur Grachikhin was the best male competitor at 16.03, both of them from Kiev. Alexander Kochetkov, from Tomsk, won the 800 m in 6:45.22 using flippers; Alexei Semyonov triumphed in the 800 m underwater event at 6:31.73, and Yelena Oktyabrskaya, from Novosibirsk, came first in the 200 m flippers swimming at 1:39.12.

In late August, the complex will host an underwater swimming world championship.

WORLD RECORDS FOR SERGEI KOPYLOV

Competing in the national cycling championships at the Krylatskaya Olympic track, Sergei Kopylov clocked 1 min 00.278 sec in the one kilometre sprint flying start, shaving

1.198 sec off the former record set in 1977 by Ledermann, of Switzerland. Kopylov also set a world mark of 28.040 sec for the 500 m sprint flying start.

Riho Suun, 22, from Tartu, won his first ever national bunch race title, covering 194 km in 3 hr 3 min 38 sec. Vladimir Maklakov, 23, from Rostov-on-Don,

and Pyotr Ugryumov, 21, from Riga, were the second and third finishers, their first yet such awards.

THREE SPOTS ONLY

World ex-champion Nona Gaprindashvili, of the USSR, won the women's chess Interzonal tournament at Bad Kissingen, West Germany with 12 points from 15 rounds. Lidiya Sosonova, also of the USSR, and Tatyana Lemachko, from Bulgaria, finished level at 11 points each.

Another Soviet entrant, Marta Litinskaya, came home sixth with ten points, while Yelena Fatalebekova shared eighth-tenth place with Maria Ivanka, of Hungary, and Suranna Maksimovic of Yugoslavia, with seven points each.

The top three finishers are through to the next challenger series round, all of them hopeful of ultimately challenging defending world champion Maya Chiburdanidze.

Polish team in USSR

In their third and closing field hockey game in the USSR a visiting Polish line-up edged Moscow PHL, 2-1.

AQUATIC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS ON

The Soviet water polo team drubbed Egypt, 6-1, in their second game of the world championships at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and are now the leaders of their elimination group. They outplayed Australia in their opening game, 11-8. Irrespective of their closing elimination game with the USA, the USSR team has secured a place for themselves in the second stage, which will feature eight teams altogether made up of two qualifying teams from each elimination group. In the two semifinals groups the teams will only play two games each, with their earlier qualification performance to be counted towards the ultimate standings.

Two top teams from each semifinals group will enter the finals.

Megan Neyer, of the USA, has won the women's springboard title at the La Pradera swimming pool, totalling 501.03 points. In the 10 m event, Zhanar Zhanarova, from Minsk, and Zhanar Zhanarova, from Kiev, came fourth and eighth with 468.03 and 441.72 points, respectively.

YACHTING

Dmitry Beryozkin and Igor Kuznetsov, from Moscow, have won the "470" class title at the world junior championships at Helsingborg, Sweden, which drew 14 countries. The Soviet crew set a nearly unprecedented competition record, winning all five races in a 50-plus-point field.

The crew is also rated top of their class in the Soviet adult team and will enter the European championships, to be held in late September on Lake Balaton, in Hungary.

BORG IN THE RUNNING AGAIN

Celebrated Swedish tennis player Bjorn Borg has told newsmen that he has decided to resume active participation in international tournaments. According to AP, Borg, who has been absent from competitive tennis since last April, played the year's Wimbledon winner Jimmy Connors in California. Although the latter was in fine fettle he had to struggle through five sets to win.

I had not expected to play so well, commented Borg after the match and a half hour of play. I still lack precision but I'm not worried about that. Sure I'm going to have a go at regaining the world No. 1 title. I think I will be in tip-top form by September.

Borg had a string of successive Wimbledon wins, but this year chose to miss the tournament since the organizers insisted that he first enter its qualifying matches, as he had failed to clock up the requisite quota of international tournaments.

I don't usually suffer from tiredness, said 26-year-old Borg. On advantage I had was that I could play throughout the day without tiring. Today, however, I am feeling tired.

Borg is already in good shape, said Connors. If I had stopped playing for an equal length of time I would not have been able to play the way he did. But I know that he has been practicing regularly and he will thus find it easy to get into his stride.

Volleyball

A Brazil men's squad wrapped up their tour of the USSR by suffering a defeat at the hands of Olympic champions and their hosts, 3-0. Earlier they twice outplayed the USSR second team in Riga, 3-0 and 3-1, and lost to a Latvian line-up, 2-3.

In the photo:

Brazil attacking.

Photo by Sergei Proskov



PRIZED TITLE DEFENDED

At the cord model aircraft world championship in Stockholm Valentin Shapovalov and Viktor Anufriyenko, from Kiev, defended their title as their model aircraft hovered 5 min 56.3 sec in the air, a new world record

for their respective class. They were awarded the gold medals of the International Aviation Federation, with bronze awards going to their teammates Vladimir Surayev and Viktor Barkov, from Kharkov.



Tbilisi Dynamo beat the Central Army Club, 3-2, in the latest round of the national championship, in Moscow.

Photo by Igor Litveyev

USSR TO GO ON BACKING PALESTINIANS AND LEBANESE

Continued support for the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples has been reaffirmed by the head of the Soviet government during his talks in the Kremlin with members of a delegation representing the Committee of Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers on Palestine. Delegation members in-

clude Foreign Ministers—I. Malmierca of Cuba, N. Rolando of Cyprus and M. d'Escoto of Nicaragua. Foreign Ministers of the other countries on the Committee are represented by Guyana's Ambassador in Moscow P. Chanj.

(Continued on page 2)



Talks in progress.

PEACE MARCH-82



'NO TO NUCLEAR WAR'

This is the slogan central to the two-day international gathering in support of nuclear disarmament held in the Austrian capital of Vienna on August 6 and 7. It was timed to coincide with the 37th anniversary of the American bombardment of Hiroshima.

Among the representatives of more than 30 countries from both East and West who con-

verged on the Austrian capital were Scandinavians whose Peace March-82 set out from Stockholm via Moscow and Minsk to Vienna, those who took part in the Moscow-Vienna and West Berlin-Vienna marches, as well as delegates from the European socialist countries, and peace champions from Central and Latin America, and the Arab, African and Asian nations.

On their way to the Austrian capital, the participants of the Peace March-82 (Moscow-Vienna) went through Hungary, where they were welcomed in cities and villages by bouquets of flowers and cordial handshakes. These peace-loving marchers, drawn from many different countries visited the international young pioneer camps on lakes Balaton and Velence, and youth construction camps.

A magnificent rally of friends ship was held during the meeting between marchers and young pioneers from the international camp in the town of Zanka on Lake Balaton where Hungarian children spend their summer holidays together with young people from other countries.

The marchers also visited the ancient Hungarian city of Győr.

One column of marchers — those on their way to Vienna via Czechoslovakia — passed through Bratislava, the capital of the Slovak Socialist Republic, where they received a rapturous reception. Several thousand Bratislava citizens gathered to welcome them in the main square of the city named after Klement Gottwald.

In addition an anti-war rally was held in a local suburban forest park. The rally, which was addressed by the marchers and by Czechoslovak peace champions, was also attended by Austrian peace marchers who had arrived from Vienna.

The town of Bratislava marked the last step of the Peace March-82 on Czechoslovak territory. Participants of the March walking through the city.

Photo GFK-TASS

Friendship highlighted

Delhi. The keynote of the traditional month of Indian-Soviet friendship soon getting under way in India will be the anniversary celebrations of the historic Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation signed by the USSR and India in August 1971, and India's Independence Day, to be celebrated on August 15.

The programme for the Indian-Soviet month is linked in large measure to the 60th anniversary of the USSR. A series of friendship soirées sponsored by Soviet republics twinned to Indian states will mark the event. One such recent function, the "Gujarat-Azerbaijan" evening, was a great success.

Moldavia bids farewell



The Days of the Moldavian republic are over: at the jubilee show, "In a Single Family", now on at the USSR Exhibition of Economic Achievements in Moscow. The relatively small republic of just 33,700 sq km in the south-west of the USSR is known as a land of orchards and vineyards. The grape, figs, and other agricultural products displayed at the show are in great demand as well as industrial products like automatic lines for precise casting, computers, bestfoot tractors, hydraulic pumps, colour TV sets, etc.

FACTS and EVENTS

More than a thousand representatives of the trade union movement of Uruguay are languishing in the country's prisons, writes the Mexican newspaper "Excelsior".

The US Department of the Navy has announced that it has commissioned two shipbuilding firms to modernize the Second World War battleship Iowa for active use in modern warfare.

The Steering Council of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua has decided to expand the role of emergency imposed on the country since March 1982 for another six months.

The voice of the Soviet people

Soviet peace fighters bitterly condemn the monstrous crimes of the Israeli aggressors in Lebanon, demanding an immediate cessation of the mass killings perpetrated last night in the Lebanese territory by the bloodthirsty aggressors, demanding steps to be taken to halt the massacres. This has been declared by the Soviet Peace Committee.

Public meetings are being held all over the Soviet Union, in which the Soviet people express solidarity for the struggle of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.



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DEAR READERS,

"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both

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SECURITY COUNCIL CALLS FOR AN END TO ATROCITIES IN LEBANON

New York. The UN Security Council, which has met for an emergency session requested by the Soviet Union, has called for an immediate withdrawal of the Israeli troops to the positions they occupied before August 1, 1982.

The resolution submitted by Spain and Jordan, points out that in case Israel fails to comply, the Security Council will have to meet again to consider the introduction of effective measures in keeping with Article 7 of the UN Charter which provides for sanctions against a country defying UN resolutions.

The resolution was adopted by 14 votes, with the United States abstaining. By doing so the United States lets the Israeli aggressors know that there will be no serious objections in Washington should they decide to complete operations to seize and destroy Beirut. The vote and the debates in the Security Council have again shown that Israel and the United States are in a state of complete international isolation, as even their closest allies refuse to support and thereby identify themselves with the crimes against humanity being committed in Lebanon.

USSR to go on backing Palestinians and Lebanese

(Continued from page 1)

The Indian Ambassador V. K. Ahuja; the Senegalese Ambassador P. A. Sané; the Lebanese Ambassador in France N. Balamouni; and the Yugoslav chargé d'affaires a.i. in the USSR, D. Stubic.

On behalf of all the non-aligned countries, the delegations have expressed their deep concern over the dangerous situation that has arisen in the Middle East following Israel's savage aggression. They resolutely condemned the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people, as well as the complicity of the United States which has made this criminal aggression possible.

During the talks it was noted that Israel's attack against Lebanon and its atrocities against the Lebanese and the Palestinians have not only sharply aggravated the situation in the Middle East, but have also put international security in jeopardy.

The danger of Washington's plans to deploy "multinational forces" in Lebanon, including American troops, was stressed. The non-aligned delegates had high praise for the unfailing support which the Soviet Union has given the Arab peoples in their just and resolute struggle for their legitimate rights, and for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

ARAB COUNTRIES CALL FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST AMERICA

Abu Zaby. Representatives of the Arab world have announced that the conference of the heads of state and government of the Arab countries to be held next week in Tunis will consider the political and economic sanctions to be taken by these countries

against the USA for its support of the Israeli aggressors.

The Saudi Arabia agency said that King Fahd, of Saudi Arabia, had spoken by telephone to Reagan demanding that the United States take urgent steps to stop the escalation of military action in Beirut.



— Hello! Proceed to a regular ceasefire violation!

Drawing by Yu. Ivanov

BRITISH COMPANIES TO HONOUR CONTRACTS

London. The British government has officially announced that the British companies who have signed contracts to deliver equipment for the gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe have to honour their obligations in full despite the attempts from Washington to prevent this. The British Secretary of State for Trade Lord Cockfield said in Parliament that he had sent in-

structions to this effect to the companies of John Brown Engineering, Smith International, Baker Oil Tools and ATF and explained that they should disregard the American ban.

A spokesman for the Labour opposition MP Lord Ponsonby reminded MPs that the honouring of the contracts for the pipeline would preserve about three thousand jobs in Britain.

SANCTIONS HAVE MISFIRED

Washington. The House International Economic Policy and Trade Subcommittee in the American Congress has approved a bill cancelling President Reagan's embargo on supplies of equipment of the Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline by American companies, their foreign subsidiaries as well as West European firms producing such equipment under American license.

Addressing the Subcommittee, Republican Representative P. Findley, of Illinois, said that the policy of trade sanctions against the USSR and West European countries has been a complete failure.

The administration has driven itself into the corner by putting crude pressure on its allies to follow its attempts to block the construction of the pipeline.

DEMONSTRATION AT WHITE HOUSE

Washington. The participants in a demonstration commemorating the 37th anniversary of the barbarous atomic bombing of two Japanese cities, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, have come to the White House with posters: "No to New Hiroshimas and Nagasakis!" and "End the Arms Race!". We would like this demonstration to reaffirm our opposition to the dangerous course of the Reagan administration for building up nuclear arsenals, as a result of which the risk of dying in thermonuclear conflagration faced by mankind is growing.

Bob Alper, one of the organizers of the demonstration and a prominent US public figure, told a TASS correspondent.

He stressed that the Americans were closely following the peace proposals made by the Soviet Union and noted particularly the great importance of the Soviet Union's renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons as a step promoting peace.

FACTS and EVENTS

According to the calculation of the Employment Research Associates, situated in Lansing, state of Michigan, the allocation of 1,000 million dollars to the Pentagon alone leads to the loss of about 9,000 jobs in the USA, which would be retained if a similar sum would be invested in civil industries.

The Swiss police have arrested in Geneva some of the members of an international criminal syndicate, specializing in the sales of stolen diamonds. Two Frenchmen and two American women were detained trying to sell stones worth more than four million dollars. Among the confiscated jewels was a unique 44 carat diamond, which the police had long been looking for.



More and more people are joining the military and political organizations of the patriotic forces in El Salvador—the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front and the Revolutionary Democratic Front. The support which the population is giving the rebels helps them carry out successful military operations against the troops of the reactionary regime. In the photo: a detachment of the National Liberation Front.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES CRITICAL OF TRANSNATIONALS

Geneva. The central committee of the World Council of Churches recently met to discuss the need to curb transnational corporations, whose operations are incompatible with the ideals of a just society. The delegates expressed solidarity with those fighting against the exploitation methods practised by transnational corporations.

Several churches from developing countries charged that international monopolies ruthlessly exploit working people in Africa, Asia and Latin America, seeking control of key positions in the economies of these countries and employing all manner of pressure tactics.

In the final document issued and approved by the meeting the importance of unity of action between the World Council of Churches and of other organizations resisting the international monopolies was stressed.

BOMBS PROVE FAULTY

Washington. More than half of the bombs supplied by the United States to the Argentine Air Force turned out to be obsolete and unfit to fight the British Navy during the Falklands crisis. This was reported by "Washington Post" quoting secret Pentagon surveys. In most cases, the bombs dropped on British warships failed to go off. The newspaper writes that unexploded bombs were discovered in the bulkheads of at least six British warships.

"Washington Post" quotes a top British military official as saying that if the bombs had gone off, he would have recommended a withdrawal of the British task force from the Falklands.

The newspaper further says that the Pentagon officials admit that if American arms had proved more reliable, the hostilities between Britain and Argentina would have had a different outcome.

AMERICAN OIL RESERVE

Washington. The Senate has passed a bill giving instructions that the US strategic oil reserve be filled to 4.1 billion barrels by 1985. At present it is 3.1 billion barrels. The bill also demands an immediate replacement of the military funds with a civilian government. The leading political analyst said that the parliament elected in 1980 should be immediately convened as the first step towards restoring democracy in the country.

RELYING ON EFFICIENCY

During an energy crisis car buyers in the West are concerned primarily not with engine power or in gaining the maximum speed but with economy. Engineers from the Ford Motor Company have developed two experimental three-cylinder engines. One is a petrol engine consuming 4.7 litres of fuel per 100 km within the city limits and 3.4 litres on a high-speed motor way. The corresponding figures of the diesel engine are 3.7 and 2.76 litres per 100 km.

COD-LIVER OIL AND YOUR HEART

An interesting experiment to determine the effect of cod-liver oil on patients suffering from cardiovascular diseases is being carried out by a research group of medical experts from the University of Sheffield.

It has been noted that in countries where fish traditionally occupies a large place on the menu—in Turkey and Japan, for example, and especially among the Eskimos of Greenland—the percentage of cardiovascular diseases is much lower than the general world average.

Now, writes the authoritative medical magazine "Lancet", under the supervision of the Sheffield experts 140 heart pa-

tients are voluntarily taking two dessert spoons of especially prepared cod-liver oil per day. The first results of this experiment have proved to be encouraging. That scientists have urged its use on a still wider scale in the clinics and hospitals of Britain. The substances contained in the cod-liver oil prevent the formation of thrombosis, reduce the level of cholesterol in the blood and ease the onslaught of heart attacks.

GLASS PIPES

In the GDR production has begun on fibreglass pipes designed for the lighting systems of chemical and petroleum plants. The main advantage of glass pipes, as opposed to metal ones, is that they are acid-resistant, easier to mount, and simpler to clean. For durability they are enclosed in sectional concrete jackets. According to experts, these pipes have a longer service life than conventional ones.

AUTOMATIC HEADLIGHT DIPPER

A driver being blinded by the lights of an oncoming vehicle is a frequent cause of road accidents. To exclude such situations, Brazilian engineers have designed an automatic device which dips headlights in a matter of one second at a distance of 200 metres of the oncoming vehicle. The device is fixed to the rear side of the rear view mirror.

OF INTEREST

An enterprising swindler

Gabe Gabor, a resident of Los Angeles, operates a somewhat unusual private postal system, specializing in the delivery of mail to the other world. The swindler enrolls the family of his "postman". The first one gets 40 dollars for 50 words, 100 dollars for an express message. But, even so, there is plenty of demand for this service although, in spite of the fact, the consumer has not received a return letter.

Sebastian-Adeline. A young French mother in Chamont, was convinced she

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

BRIDGES VERSUS REDOUTS

The events of the past several months are clear evidence that America is again putting the thumb-screws on its allies, and primarily those in NATO, seeking their submission to its global imperial ambitions, says Ye. Ruzskov, writing in PRAVDA.

Endeavouring to blow up one after another the bridges of cooperation between Western and Eastern Europe and to erect more and more redoubts in their place, Washington is trying to turn Western Europe into a beachhead of nuclear blackmail of the socialist countries, the fundamental point at issue here is how to make Western Europe adopt a more favourable attitude towards the new American strategy with its emphasis on the possibility of nuclear war, of a chiefly "limited" tactical nature.

The NATO leaders must be aware of the dire threat emanating from such designs, the author points out, but if some prefer to hide their heads ostrich-like in the sand, they are now prevented from so doing by millions of West Europeans worried by the nuclear threat.

COMPLEX, TENSE AND VOLATILE

The current international situation can be tersely described as being complex, tense and volatile. Bulgarian foreign minister Pyotr Mladenov told an IZVESTIYA correspondent. The sword of Damocles is again hovering over the world. This threat is a direct consequence of Washington ed-munistrations line of total confrontation with the countries of total socialism and superimposition, he stressed.

The US chief goal is to conduct a policy from the position of strength and reach military superiority over the socialist countries. One example of this, he said, is the decision to place new American medium-range missiles in Western Europe and to produce new types of strategic armaments, nuclear, binary and other types of mass destruction weapons. It is my firm opinion that such policy is absolutely doomed, he stressed, as the socialist community countries will never allow a shift in the balance of power.

TOWARDS GREATER INTEGRATION

Compared with the previous five-year plan period, there is to be a 30 per cent increase in the volume of trade between the CMEA member-countries in 1981-1985, writes I. Ikonnikov in the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. Commenting on the results of the recent 30th session of that economic organization of the socialist states, he notes that this country is expanding its foreign trade and economic links with the CMEA partners. In the current five-year plan period socialist countries will export to the Soviet Union modern machines and equipment worth nearly 60 thousand million roubles, as well as 40 thousand million roubles' worth of consumer goods. By the beginning of 1982, the USSR had given other socialist countries technical assistance in the construction of more than 2,700 projects in the leading branches of their economies.

One of the major issues discussed at the session was the coordination of national economic plans by the CMEA members for the years between 1980 and 1990. This programme, approved by the session, envisages the coordination of plans two or three years before a five-year plan period begins so that the results may be taken into account while devising national plans and programmes for economic and social development.

HONDURAS AS A SPRINGBOARD FOR AGGRESSION

The invasion of Honduran army units into El Salvador and massive attacks against Nicaragua initiated from Honduras territory have turned the world's public attention towards Honduras, one of the poorest and most backward countries of the Western Hemisphere, writes A. Baryshev in the NOVY TIMES magazine.

It is quite evident that Honduras has become a springboard of Washington's aggressive policy in Latin America.

Back in 1978, two months after the victory of the Sandinistas in Nicaragua, one of the top figures in the US State Department Vilron Vaky made a tour of Central American capitals and prepared a report for the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Commission. The report pinpointed Honduras as the "geopolitical clue" to Central America, capable of playing the part of a "stabilizing axis" in the region.

Now the Honduran army receives from the USA helicopters equipped with devices to facilitate vision at night, patrol launches, artillery guns, transport and communication facilities. All this is intended for fighting progressive regimes in the Latin American continent, the author concludes.

VIEWPOINT

What Ronald Reagan failed to tell Indira Gandhi

There is no doubt that President Reagan turned on all his charm for visiting Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, but he was unable, however, to ward off the former's trenchant questions which sounded serious alarm over developments in the vast area from Suez to Indonesia.

The stock-in-trades of Hollywood smiles and Californian wisecracks fail to impress the Indian public, which is worried by the huge stockpiles of the latest weaponry accumulated by Washington for India's neighbour Pakistan.

The alleged "need to bolster Pakistani defences" against the Soviet threat is no longer taken seriously even by the gullible. The very nature of the weapons involved, worth a total of 5,200 million dollars, and including strike F-16 fighter bombers, is evidence that once having stated on the Pakistan card against India, America is still wedded to such tactics. It was just that President Reagan felt unable to carry his country for his Indian guests to the length of informing her of this fact.

For, however, speak louder than words. The American in-

dian talks took place against the background of one of the bloodiest acts of aggression ever unleashed against the Arabs by Washington's Israeli allies using American funds and weapons, among them F-16 bombers. This orgy of murder and destruction is a striking example of the American policy of exacerbating tension and of pitting off one people against another.

Reagan failed to tell Mrs Gandhi that maintaining tension in Pakistani-Indian relations and bolstering Pakistani military power with a continuous threat to India's north-western borders form integral part of the "great American design" for Asia. This is why Washington works hard to undermine any political settlement of the Afghanistan problem or of the relations existing between Indonesia, Laos and their neighbours in South-East Asia.

India, like other peace-loving nations in the region, has long been advocating that the Indian Ocean be turned into a zone of peace. The policy of all recent American administrations, however, has been diametrically opposed to this trend, aiming instead at transferring the in-

Indian Ocean into a high-tension zone. Under Reagan the number of American military bases has been increased to 25; apart from its main stronghold in the central Indian Ocean, the island of Diego Garcia, the Pentagon is establishing bases in Kenya, Oman, Somalia and Bahrain; is shoring up its military presence in the Sinai, and is making active use of British bases in the Persian Gulf. America now has a permanent task force in the Indian Ocean made up of two aircraft carrier groups, of assault landing ships, and control and support ships.

While Mrs Gandhi was speeding her way through the air to Washington, military aid was being hastily dispatched from the American capital in the opposite direction: to the Sadr Base regime in Somalia to help combat the internal opposition there. The reasons for this rush are clear—it was precisely Sadr Base who gave the Pentagon free run of the military base in Somalia, which Americans rank on a par with Diego Garcia island. Both of these bases will serve as major trans-shipment points for the troops and arms the American leaders plan to use to keep up pressure on the

Arab East, the USSR, Afghanistan and India.

It is equally clear why Washington is dragging its feet over peace initiatives. It was way back under President Carter that America broke off bilateral talks with the USSR on curtailing military activity by the two powers in the Indian Ocean. Under Reagan the US stone-walling strategy against similar undertakings has become still more pronounced, leading to the disruption of an international conference on the Indian Ocean which had been scheduled for December 1981 in Colombo.

American diplomacy is under orders to use all manner of ploys to drag out and foil efforts to turn the Indian Ocean into an area of peace, for to welcome this idea which has the full support of the Soviet Union would mean that America would have to reconcile itself to abandoning its military bases and its ambitious plans to dominate a vast area to the east of Suez.

And naturally, President Reagan was reluctant to tell Mrs Gandhi that India, representing as she does a rampart of stability in Asia, is an eyesore for those putting their stakes on the full support of the Soviet Union would mean that America would have to reconcile itself to abandoning its military bases and its ambitious plans to dominate a vast area to the east of Suez.

Many governments, including those of Western Europe and Japan, have had the chance to learn from their own experience, as exemplified by what happened in Yugoslavia and elsewhere, that the strings of complacency lavished by American leaders at official meetings can easily backfire—or shoot from the hip as they say in California and Texas.

UNREST IN BOLIVIA

In Paz. A wave of strikes and protests has swept Bolivia. Taking part are miners, industrial and office workers, farmers, students and other young people, different political parties and members of the business community, who demand an immediate replacement of the military junta with a civilian government. The leading political analyst said that the parliament elected in 1980 should be immediately convened as the first step towards restoring democracy in the country.

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Pudu kid

Caught in this photo-carried in the "Morning Star" is a pudu kid of the smallest deer family, endemic to South America and one of the least studied mammals on earth. The pudu's male habitat is the Chilean forest, but it is also to be found in Ecuador, where it has a dark-fingered pet, in Colombia, where it is black and gold, and in two or three more countries on the continent.



IN INFORMATION

